

Attorney Docket No.: 03/071K  
Customer No. 38263

**10/568381**  
**IAP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 14 FEB 2006**  
**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re: Walter NIEDERSTAETTER *et al.*

International Application No.: PCT/EP2004/009396

International Filing Date: August 23, 2004

For: *Intrinsically Stable Shirred Stick*

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-145

Charlotte, North Carolina  
February 14, 2006

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified PCT patent application as follows to bring it into conformance with United States national stage filing requirements:

**Amendments to the Specification** are provided beginning on Page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on Page 5 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on Page 8 of this paper.